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Gilbert urging FEMA to leave floodplain alone

LANSING – Sen. Jud Gilbert is introducing a resolution in the state Senate urging the Federal Emergency Management Agency to reject proposed revisions to the floodplain elevation levels in St. Clair County.

The current FEMA proposal calls for raising the elevations, particularly in waterfront areas. This would place a significant number of new and existing homes and businesses within the floodplain area, forcing property owners to purchase expensive flood insurance, which could cost hundreds of dollars per year.

“As a resident of St. Clair County, I am strongly urging FEMA to reject this plan and keep the elevations at their current levels to spare homeowners additional and unnecessary insurance costs,” Gilbert said. “I am also working closely with state and federal officials to fight these proposed revisions. Lake levels are at near-record lows and are continuing to drop. If this is the case, there is absolutely no need to raise the flood elevation. Residents do not need this undue hardship pressed upon them in times when many families are already struggling financially.

The resolution will be considered by the Senate in the coming weeks.

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